

28 November 2022



Incident Alert

Sea Robbery Incidents in the Singapore Strait

ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre

21 Media Circle, #05-04

Singapore 138562

Tel : (65) 6376 3091

Fax : (65) 6376 3066

Web : www.recaap.org

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28 November 2022

Sea robbery incidents in the Singapore Strait

The ReCAAP ISC alerts the maritime community on the continued occurrence of incidents of sea robbery to ships while underway in the Singapore Strait (SS), and warns a possibility of further incidents.

During 24 – 26 Nov 22, three incidents were reported on board ships while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in the SS. The incidents occurred on consecutive days and in close proximity to each other, off Pulau Jangkat, Indonesia. In one incident, the perpetrators were armed with knives. There was no report of the perpetrators with arms in the other two incidents. The crew was not injured in all the three incidents. Engine spares were stolen in one incident, and nothing was stolen in the other two incidents.

With these three incidents, a total 51 incidents were reported in the SS since January 2022. **As the perpetrators are not arrested, there is a possibility of further incidents in the Singapore Strait.**

The ReCAAP ISC urges the littoral States to increase patrols in their respective waters, respond promptly to incidents reported by ships, strengthen coordination among the littoral States and promote information sharing on incidents and criminal groups involved in order to arrest the perpetrators.

All ships are advised to intensify vigilance and maintain look-out while transiting the areas of concern, particularly during night time, adopt preventive measures and report all incidents immediately to the nearest coastal State. Ship masters and crew are advised to get the latest information (at www.recaap.org) and tune-in to advisories and navigational broadcasts announced by the littoral States.

Location of Incidents in the Singapore Strait (since January 2022)

The ReCAAP Focal Points reported to the ReCAAP ISC a total of **seven** incidents that occurred to ships while underway in the SS in November 2022. The incidents occurred on 9 Nov, 19 Nov, 21 Nov (2 incidents)¹, 24 Nov, 25 Nov and 26 Nov.

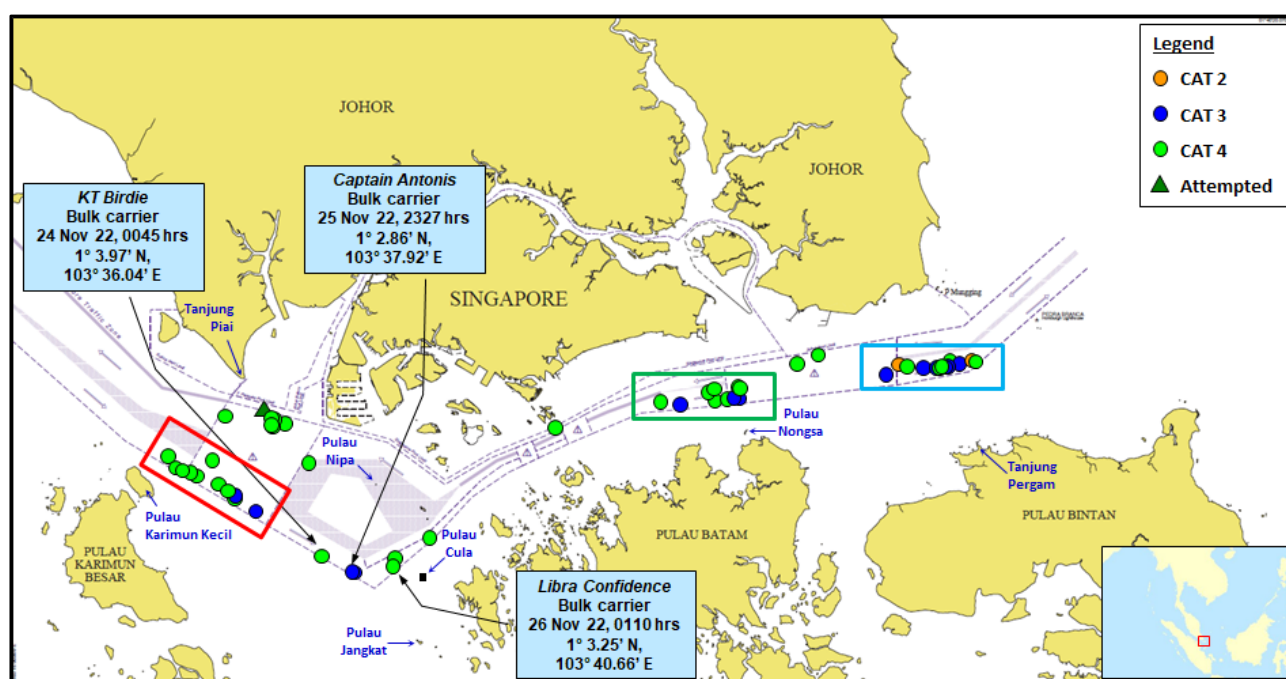
¹ Incident Alert 05/2022 on the four incidents (occurred on 9 Nov, 19 Nov and 21 Nov) was issued on 21 Nov.



With the seven incidents reported in November 2022 so far, a total of **51 incidents** occurred to ships while underway in the SS since January 2022. Compared to the period of January – November 2021 (41 incidents), there was an **increase of 10 incidents** during January – November 2022.

The ReCAAP ISC is concerned with the continued occurrence of incidents in the SS, in particular, the clusters of incidents off Tanjung Pergam, Bintan Island (Indonesia) [13 incidents], off Pulau Karimun Kecil (Indonesia) [11 incidents] and off Pulau Nongsa, Batam Island (Indonesia) [10 incidents].

The locations of the 51 incidents are shown in the map below; and description of the three incidents reported during 24 – 26 November 2022 are in Annex A.



Location of incidents in the Singapore Strait during January-November 2022 (as of 26 Nov)



Annex A

The description of the three incidents reported during 24-26 Nov 22 as shown below:

S/N	Date/Time/location	Details of Incidents
1.	<p>24/11/22 0045 hrs</p> <p>Approximately off Karimun Island, in the eastbound lane of the TSS in SS.</p>	<p>While underway, the master spotted two suspicious boats trailing their ship. The master informed the crew at bridge wings to maintain vigilant and alert the engine room regarding the sightings. Later at 0105 hrs. the duty officer and A/B on pirate watch spotted three perpetrators at the starboard quarter attempting to disembark from the ship. A search was conducted on board the ship, with no further sightings of any perpetrators on board. However, the steering entrance door and funnel door were found to be unlocked. Subsequent checks revealed that some generator parts were reported missing. All crew were safe</p> <p>The master reported the incident to Singapore VTIS West, Singapore Police Coast Guard and the company security officer.</p> <p>Safety navigational broadcast was initiated.</p>
2.	<p>25/11/22 2327 hrs</p> <p>Approximately 6.7 nm off Pulau Jankat, (Indonesia), in the eastbound lane of the TSS in SS.</p>	<p>While underway, the master reported to Singapore VTIS that at 0015 hrs, three perpetrators armed with knives were sighted in the engine room. At 0045 hrs the master reported that the perpetrators ran towards the steering gear room. The master sounded the ship alarm, mustered the crew and carried out a search on board the ship to locate the perpetrators. As the master was not able to ascertain the status of the perpetrators on board, the ship was directed proceed to the boarding ground for a Police Coast Guard (PCG) security check.</p> <p>The Singapore PCG boarded the ship and conducted a security check with no further sightings of the perpetrators. Nothing was reported stolen and all crew were safe.</p> <p>Safety navigational broadcast was initiated. The Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)'s Maritime Safety Task Force (MSTF) and Singapore PCG were notified. Information of the incident was shared with the Indonesian authorities.</p>



S/N	Date/Time/location	Details of Incidents
3.	26/11/22 0110 hrs Approximately 5.6 nm off Pulau Jankat, (Indonesia), in the eastbound lane of the TSS in SS.	<p>While underway, the master reported to Singapore VTIS West that two perpetrators were sighted in the aft at 0106 hrs and immediately escaped upon being noticed. The master added that a small boat was sighted in the astern of the ship. The master raised the ship alarm and mustered the crew. A search on board the ship was conducted by the crew with no further sightings of the perpetrators. Nothing was reported stolen, and all crew were safe and accounted for.</p> <p>Safety navigational broadcast was initiated. The RSN's MSTF and Singapore PCG were notified. Information of the incident was shared with the Indonesian authorities.</p>

